

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method operative with respect to a telephone conversation having at least one party operating a mobile telephone, the method comprising:
5 detecting whether the mobile telephone is present within a pre-defined area; and
responsive to detecting that the mobile telephone is present within the pre-defined area, writing data to a
10 billing record to indicate that a second party has been billed for mobile telephone airtime charges of the at least one party operating a mobile telephone, wherein the second party is a party other than the at least one party operating a mobile telephone.

15 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
writing data to the billing record to indicate that the second party has been billed for additional charges of the at least one party operating a mobile telephone that are other than mobile telephone airtime charges.

20 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the other charges include at least one of long distance charges, local toll charges, and local telephone call charges.

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4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
presenting an indication to the at least one party
operating a mobile telephone that the at least one party
operating a mobile telephone will not be billed for the
5 mobile telephone airtime charges.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one
party initiates a call within the pre-defined area, and
the mobile telephone airtime charges are associated with
the call.

10 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one
party answers a call within the pre-defined area, and the
mobile telephone airtime charges are associated with the
call.

15 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one
party enters the pre-defined area while a call is in
progress, and the mobile telephone airtime charges are
associated with the call.

20 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
responsive to detecting that the mobile telephone
has left the pre-defined area, writing additional data to
the billing record to indicate that the at least one
party has been billed for mobile telephone airtime
charges accrued after leaving the pre-defined area.

25 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the detecting step
includes triangulating the position of the mobile
telephone from signal transmission times.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the signal transmission times include at least one of mobile telephone signal transmission times and Global Positioning System (GPS) signal transmission times.

5 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the detecting step includes using at least one sensor located in the pre-determined area to detect the presence of the mobile telephone.

10 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one sensor includes a radio-frequency identification tag reader.

15 13. A computer program product in a computer readable medium, operative with respect to a telephone conversation having at least one party operating a mobile telephone, comprising instructions for:

detecting whether the mobile telephone is present within a pre-defined area; and

20 responsive to detecting that the mobile telephone is present within the pre-defined area, writing data to a billing record to indicate that a second party has been billed for mobile telephone airtime charges of the at least one party operating a mobile telephone, wherein the second party is a party other than the at least one party operating a mobile telephone.

25 14. The computer program product of claim 13, comprising additional instructions for:

writing data to the billing record to indicate that the second party has been billed for additional charges

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of the at least one party operating a mobile telephone that are other than mobile telephone airtime charges.

15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the additional charges include at least one of long 5 distance charges, local toll charges, and local telephone call charges.

16. The computer program product of claim 13, comprising additional instructions for:

presenting an indication to the at least one party 10 operating a mobile telephone that the at least one party operating a mobile telephone will not be billed for the mobile telephone airtime charges.

17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the at least one party initiates a call within the 15 pre-defined area, and the mobile telephone airtime charges are associated with the call.

18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the at least one party answers a call within the 20 pre-defined area, and the mobile telephone airtime charges are associated with the call.

19. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the at least one party enters the pre-defined area while a call is in progress, and the mobile telephone airtime charges are associated with the call.

25 20. The computer program product of claim 13, comprising additional instructions for:

responsive to detecting that the mobile telephone has left the pre-defined area, writing additional data to the billing record to indicate that the at least one party has been billed for mobile telephone airtime

5 charges accrued after leaving the pre-defined area.

21. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the detecting step includes triangulating the position of the mobile telephone from signal transmission times.

22. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein

10 the signal transmission times include at least one of mobile telephone signal transmission times and Global Positioning System (GPS) signal transmission times.

23. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the instructions for detecting include instructions for

15 using at least one sensor located in the pre-determined area to detect the presence of the mobile telephone.

24. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the at least one sensor includes a radio-frequency identification tag reader.

20 25. A data processing system operative with respect to a telephone conversation having at least one party operating a mobile telephone, comprising:

 a bus system;

 a processing unit including at least one processor;

25 and

a memory containing a set of instructions, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the acts of:

detecting whether the mobile telephone is present
5 within a pre-defined area; and
responsive to detecting that the mobile telephone is present within the pre-defined area, writing data to a billing record to indicate that a second party has been billed for mobile telephone airtime charges of the at
10 least one party operating a mobile telephone, wherein the second party is a party other than the at least one party operating a mobile telephone.

26. The data processing system of claim 25, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to
15 perform the additional acts of:

writing data to the billing record to indicate that the second party has been billed for additional charges of the at least one party operating a mobile telephone that are other than mobile telephone airtime charges.

20 27. The data processing system of claim 26, wherein the additional charges include at least one of long distance charges, local toll charges, and local telephone call charges.

25 28. The data processing system of claim 25, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the additional acts of:

presenting an indication to the at least one party operating a mobile telephone that the at least one party

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operating a mobile telephone will not be billed for the mobile telephone airtime charges.

29. The data processing system of claim 25, wherein the at least one party initiates a call within the 5 pre-defined area, and the mobile telephone airtime charges are associated with the call.

30. The data processing system of claim 25, wherein the at least one party answers a call within the pre-defined area, and the mobile telephone airtime charges are 10 associated with the call.

31. The data processing system of claim 25, wherein the at least one party enters the pre-defined area while a call is in progress, and the mobile telephone airtime charges are associated with the call.

15 32. The data processing system of claim 25, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the additional acts of:

responsive to detecting that the mobile telephone has left the pre-defined area, writing additional data to 20 the billing record to indicate that the at least one party has been billed for mobile telephone airtime charges accrued after leaving the pre-defined area.

33. The data processing system of claim 25, wherein the detecting step includes triangulating the position of the 25 mobile telephone from signal transmission times.

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34. The method of claim 33, wherein the signal transmission times include at least one of mobile telephone signal transmission times and Global Positioning System (GPS) signal transmission times.

5 35. The data processing system of claim 25, wherein the detecting act includes using at least one sensor located in the pre-determined area to detect the presence of the mobile telephone.

10 36. The data processing system of claim 35, wherein the at least one sensor includes a radio-frequency identification tag reader.

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